

Message Text

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ACTION AGRE-00

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PASS AGRICULTURE ELECTRONICALLY FOR ASST. SEC. HATHAWAY
AND FAS

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAGR
SUBJECT: FINANCIAL TIMES ARTICLE ON WORLD FOOD PRICE PACT

1. FYI, TODAY'S LONDON FINANCIAL TIMES (JUNE 1) CARRIED
AN ARTICLE DATED HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA MAY 31, STATING
THAT "CANADA AND 3 OTHER MAJOR FOOD EXPORTING COUNTRIES
WILL DISCUSS THE CREATION OF AN INTERNATIONAL PRICING
AGREEMENT FOR KEY AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS".

2. QUOTING CANADIAN AGRICULTURAL MINISTER WHELAN, THE
ARTICLE NOTED THAT A "FAVORABLE RESPONSE" HAD BEEN
RECEIVED DURING PRIMARY CONTACTS WITH AGRICULTURAL
MINISTERS OF THE US/AUSTRALIA AND ARGENTINE. THESE
MINISTERS WERE INTERESTED ACCORDING TO THE ARTICLE IN
ESTABLISHING MINIMUM WORLD SELLING PRICES FOR GRAINS,
BEEF AND DAIRY PRODUCTS. THE MATTER IS TO BE DISCUSSED
IN DETAIL DURING THE JUNE 12-14 WORLD FOOD COUNCIL
MEETING IN MEXICO CITY.

3. MR. WHELAN WAS FURTHER QUOTED AS SAYING THAT THE
ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT WAS PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN THE
AGREEMENT AND THAT SECRETARY BERGLAND WAS ALSO IN
FAVOR ALTHOUGH THE US GOVERNMENT HAD NOT YET TAKEN A
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POLICY STAND. WHELAN "EXPECTED DIFFICULTY WITH US
ACCEPTANCES BECAUSE OF ITS CONCERN ABOUT A FREE MARKET
PHILOSOPHY".

BREWSTER

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Message Attributes

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